



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

February 2022 Newsletter

Upcoming Meetings:

March 11: Jason Edwardson, from the Indiana War Memorial, USS Indpls Radio Room

April 8: RF Exposure Testing explained from ARRL

May 13: “Radio Sport” by Jeff Hammer, N9NIC

June 10: Annual Auction

Highlights from the February Meeting:

The meeting was called to order via Zoom at 7:31 pm by club president, David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 33 in attendance.

There was one new ham present: Mark, KD9TZS, has been licensed 2 months. Welcome, Mark!

David showed some pictures taken at Winter Field Day at the Salvation Army EDS facility. *[more later in this newsletter]* David reported Greg Dean, N9NWO, and John Willenbrock, N9UE, had both passed away recently. Steve Wendt, KB9RDS, noted that Rick Turner, KB9NZY, had also recently passed. David also announced that Brent Walls, N9BA, is looking for volunteers for the 500 Festival Mini-Marathon. He summarized some of the duties of these volunteers, such as relaying information to race officials regarding medical emergencies, etc. He also went over the benefits, which include a volunteer appreciation event on opening day of the track. David announced that next

month's meeting will be held at the Indiana War Memorial, and will include a tour of the USS Indianapolis Radio Room. Steve Wendt, KB9RDS, announced that there are FEMA Region 5 AuxComm nets held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 2100 UTC. These nets are held on 2 HF bands first (60 meters and 40 meters), then on 2 digital voice modes (D-Star and DMR). To get more info on these nets, sign up for the FEMA Region 5 AuxComm Net Groups.io page at <https://groups.io/g/R5AN>

Next David introduced the evening's presenter, Dave Arland of Arland Communications, for his presentation about last month's Consumer Electronics Show (CES), held annually (except for last year's fully virtual show, of course) in Las Vegas. Dave said that this year the CES was a fully vaccinated and fully masked event. Normally there are around 170,000 attendees to this event. This year there were 44,500. Normally there are around 6000 media covering the event. This year there were 1878. Dave said there were 886 startups represented this year. Dave talked about the new addition to the Las Vegas Convention Center that took up the space where the old Landmark Hotel had been located. He talked about a Story File "Conversational Video Technology" demo with a virtual William Shatner. This is a program where for \$60,000, the company will record a person answering 650 questions that can then be accessed by a viewer asking questions of the recorded person. Dave showed his "Cubo" artificial cat that responds to human touch, etc., available for around \$150 from Amazon

Dave talked about and showed some pictures from the underground transit tube engineered and installed by Elon Musk's "[The Boring Company](#)". [NextGenTV](#) (the next version of digital television) and its capabilities was discussed. Some of the more interesting items at the show was an AI robot from Northern Ireland that was very expressive. The Indy Autonomous Challenge (AI driven race car) was there. Teeth whitening was a big thing. There was a pen sterilizer that got some attention. Dave showed a picture of LG's show space, which was mostly taken up by small tables with QR codes on them for the viewer to scan to see their items. LG, as several other typically large vendors, had a skeleton staff there (5 versus their normal 2800), primarily to "keep their spot" for subsequent years. Sony had a car there, mainly just for the audio system. Samsung had a fully staffed display, utilizing a "fast pass" type system to manage crowd sizes.

After Dave's presentation, there were lots of good questions and comments from those in attendance, especially regarding NextGenTV, otherwise known as ATSC 3.

The formal part of the meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Ham Radio News:

2022 CLUB DUES ARE DUE, AND PAYABLE VIA PAYPAL NOW!

Club Dues are receivable at any time. Individual dues are \$20 per year, or Family dues are \$30 per year (all family members need to live in the same household). Dues can be paid with PayPal at treasurer@indyradioclub.org. Be sure to send the payment as a “friend”, **not for** “goods and services”. This will prevent any fees being assessed to the payment. For those that don’t have a PayPal account, you can send a check made out to “Indianapolis Radio Club” to Ken Bandy, 7405 E. County Road 900 N, Brownsburg, IN 46112.

As of the writing of this newsletter, we have 44 annual members paid through 2022 (for reference, we had 67 annual members paid in 2021). To check your status, point your browser to <https://tinyurl.com/radio-club-members>

As an added incentive for membership in the club, once we start meeting in person, we will have periodic door prize drawings for items such as gift certificates for equipment vendors, and such. Only up to date members present at that meeting will be eligible for these drawings.

HEIL SOUND ANNOUNCES NEW OWNERSHIP

Heil Sound, the Fairview Heights, Illinois-based manufacturer of professional microphones, has announced the successful transfer of ownership from Bob (K9EID) and Sarah Heil to current President and CEO, Ash Levitt, and Director of Operations, Steve Warford. Sarah Heil has retired, but Bob will continue to do outreach work and product design within the amateur radio space under the title Founder and CEO Emeritus.

When discussing the transition, Heil said, “My life has been about achieving great sound, whether on the concert stage or in the amateur radio world. I’ve watched Heil Sound go from a regional sound company to a world-class microphone manufacturer. This company has been my passion but it is time for me to step aside. There is no better team to carry the company forward than Ash and Steve, and I have the utmost confidence in them.”

Both Levitt and Warford started working with Heil Sound as teenagers building and packaging products. Levitt took a different career path in academia for a number of years

but continued to regularly consult with Heil Sound during that time. Levitt returned to Heil Sound full-time in 2017 and assumed the role of president in 2020. Warford worked his way up in the company during his tenure and has been responsible for daily operations for the past several years.

WINTER FIELD DAY A SUCCESS!

Several Indianapolis Radio Club members took part in Winter Field Day activities on Saturday, January 29, at the Salvation Army EDS facility.



Bert, KC9TQA, supplied those present with his fabulous chili.



Here, Bob Burns, AK9R, is shown testing a radio while Jeff, N9NIC, John, W9JS, Jim, K9RU, and Dennis, KC9SKA, look on.



Dennis, KC9SKA, Matthew, W9SOX, Cindy, KD9NNZ, and Jim, AC9ZL in the SATERN shack at Winter Field Day, 2022.

HAMVENTION BANQUET OPTIONS

With the Dayton/Xenia Hamvention coming up in May come a few operating specialty dinner options. These are great opportunities to rub elbows with the “big names” in these areas, as well as those “up and comers”.

For 160 meter enthusiasts, there is the “Top Band Dinner” on Friday, May 20, being held at the [Hope Hotel](https://www.topbanddinner.com/). For tickets, go to <https://www.topbanddinner.com/>

Contesters will want to look into the aptly named “Contest Dinner”, also being held at the Hope Hotel on Saturday, May 21. Tickets for the Contest Dinner can be purchased at <https://www.contestdinner.com/>

DXers will want to check out the “2022 DX Dinner”, being held on Friday, May 20, at the [Dayton Marriott](https://swodxaevents.org/purchase-tickets/). Tickets for the DX Dinner can be purchased at <https://swodxaevents.org/purchase-tickets/>

SEVERE WEATHER SPOTTER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

With spring approaching (hopefully soon), spring storms are also approaching. It’s a good idea to take advantage of spotter training classes, both for those new to spotting, and as refreshers for experienced spotters. There are in person classes coming up in several central Indiana Counties starting February 19 in Howard County. There are also 4 “virtual” classes scheduled. For the complete line up, go to <https://www.weather.gov/ind/spotter#train>

FATHER OF APRS, BOB BRUNINGA, WB4APR, SILENT KEY

After a two year battle with cancer and then after a few weeks of fighting COVID-19 WB4APR, Robert E Bruninga, passed away on February 7th. In 1992 Bob developed Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) a single channel digital communications network for Amateur Radio.

For 20 years Bob served in the US Navy then for "27 years as an instructor at the Naval Academy", says K1HTV, Rich Zwirko. Bob was the essence of a ham as "a creative person and loved to tinker, always involved in all kinds of electronics and software projects in Ham Radio as well as at the Academy at the USNA Satellite Lab as the Senior Research Engineer". <https://www.qrz.com/db/wb4apr>

“LEWIS & CLARK TRAIL ON THE AIR” EVENT COMING UP

Lewis & Clark Trail On the Air is seeking Amateur Radio Clubs and participants that are located in Indiana. If you have an interest of setting up and operating during this event, check out Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/LewisandClarkOTA>) or <https://lctota.org/> event details.

The organizers for this event are hoping that this information spikes some interest from club stations from Indiana.

They have got most of the 16 states covered, just need to get a couple more. It's getting exciting. The clubs involved are excited too. So get ready for June 4-19 for the 1st Lewis and Clark Trail On the Air event.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR YOURSELF

If you want to see what your signal sounds like on HF, check out <https://qsorder.hamradiomap.com/> You can search by entering your callsign in the search box at the top of the page. These are primarily exchanges recorded during contests. So testers will have a better chance of hearing themselves.

UPCOMING CENTRAL INDIANA TESTING SESSIONS (check with sponsor before planning to attend)

Greenfield IN 46140-9654
Sponsor: Hancock County ARC
Date: Feb 19 2022
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: David Keiser
(317) 440-8486
Email: kc9urp@hrtc.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Hancock EMA EOC
640 South Franklin St
Greenfield IN 46140-9654

West Lafayette IN 47907-2076
Sponsor: Purdue University ARC W9YB
Date: Feb 26 2022
Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Nicholas T. Hyer
(765) 490-1785
Email: nicholashyer@gmail.com
VEC: LAUREL VEC
Location: Purdue University (Rawls Hall)
101 S Grant St
Rawls Hall Room 2079
<http://www.w9yb.org/licensing/>
West Lafayette IN 47907-2076

Nashville IN 47448
Sponsor: Indiana Repeater Society
Date: Mar 01 2022
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Scott W. Nelson
(812) 320-2790
Email: scott@w9dba.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Brown Cty Middle School
95 School House Ln
Nashville IN 47448

Bloomington IN 47401-5337
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc
Date: Mar 12 2022
Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: William F. Wootton
(812) 876-8689
Email: wfwootton@gmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: First United Church - Call or email ahead due to COVID-19
2420 E 3rd St
Register at 11:30am
Testing at 12 NOON
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Indianapolis IN 46218-2169
Sponsor: Indianapolis RC
Date: Mar 12 2022
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: James K. Rinehart
(317) 721-1458
Email: k9ru@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility
4020 Georgetown Rd
CALL AHEAD!!!
Indianapolis IN 46218-2169

FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews_indyradioclub.org.

SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at kj9b@arrl.net

Signals from the Past:

From the February, 1982 *Amachewer*:

NEW GADGET ON THE MARKET

Just what every wide awake ham needs to round out the equipment collection. For \$345 *[a little over \$1000 in today's dollars]* you get a 2 meter direction finder. It has 8 rubber duckie antennas mounted on a plate that goes on top of your car. Inside the car is an indicator/control unit that samples the antennas and gives the direction. Would be quite handy for tracking the occasional weirdo that pops up on the 2 meter band. If you are interested, contact ALF Products, 1448 Estes, Denver, CO 80215 *[alas, ALF was purchased by Rimage in the early 90's]*

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- LaPorte County Amateur Radio Club, Cabin Fever Hamfest: February 26, at the LaPorte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St., LaPorte, IN
- Dugger ARC Hamfest: February 26, at the Dugger Community Building, 834 S Hicum St., Dugger, IN
- Wabash Valley ARA Bunny Fest: March 12, at the Clay County 4-H Fairgrounds, 6550 N. St. Rd. 59, Brazil, IN

- Columbus Hamfest: Saturday, April 2, 8:00 am to noon at Bartholomew County Fairgrounds Community Building. Go to <http://carcnet.net/2022-hamfest/> for details.
- Hamvention 2022: May 20 - 22, 2022 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center. Go to <https://hamvention.org/> for more info.

2022 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – president@indyradioclub.org
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - vp@indyradioclub.org
- Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - secretary@indyradioclub.org
- Chief Operator: OPEN
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – board@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - board@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB - board@indyradioclub.org
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org